

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-9 were pending. Claims 1 and 12 have been rewritten and Claims 2, 8, 13, and 19 cancelled. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment.

Rejection of Claims

Claims 1 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hara (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0227768).

Claims 10-11 were allowed.

Claims 2-9 and 13-19 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have rewritten Claim 1 to incorporate the elements of Claims 2 and 8 and rewritten Claim 12 to incorporate the elements of Claims 13 and 19.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony F. Curtis, Ph.D.
Registration No. 46,193
Agent for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200